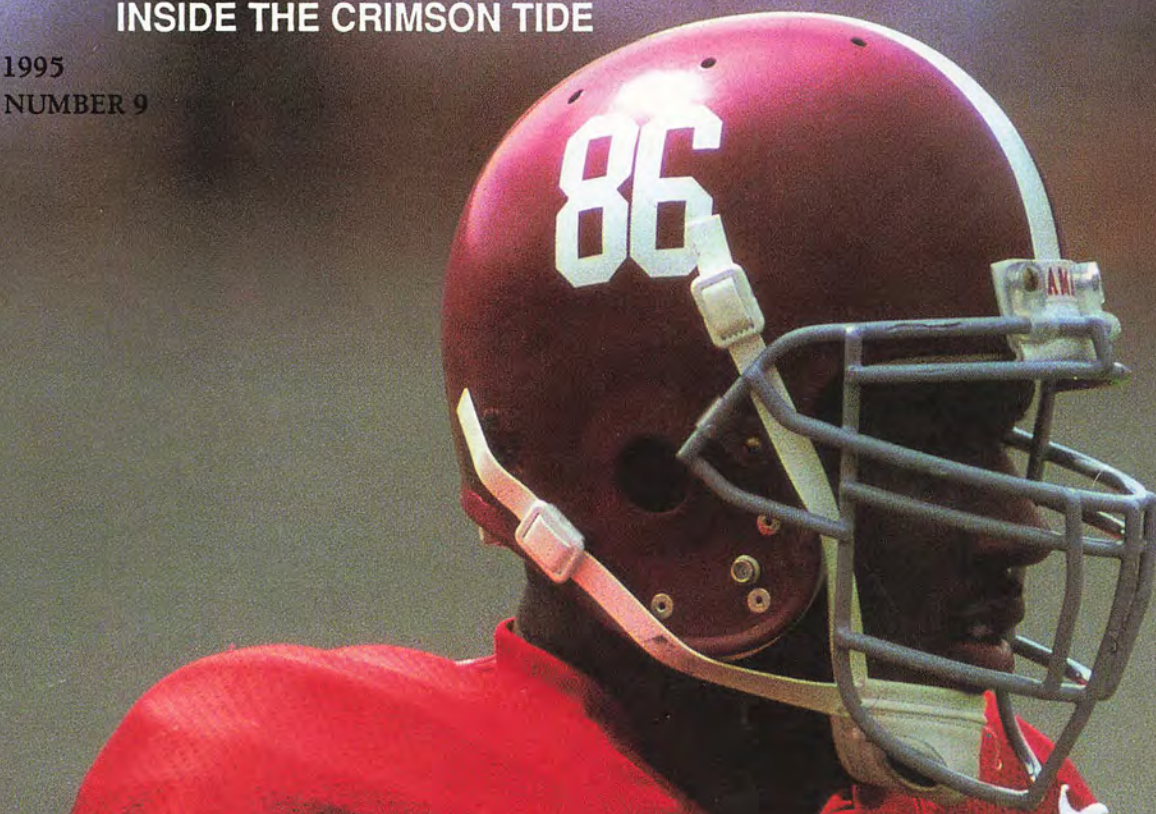


'BAMA

INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

NOVEMBER, 1995

VOLUME 17, NUMBER 9



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• Rod
Rutledge

Also

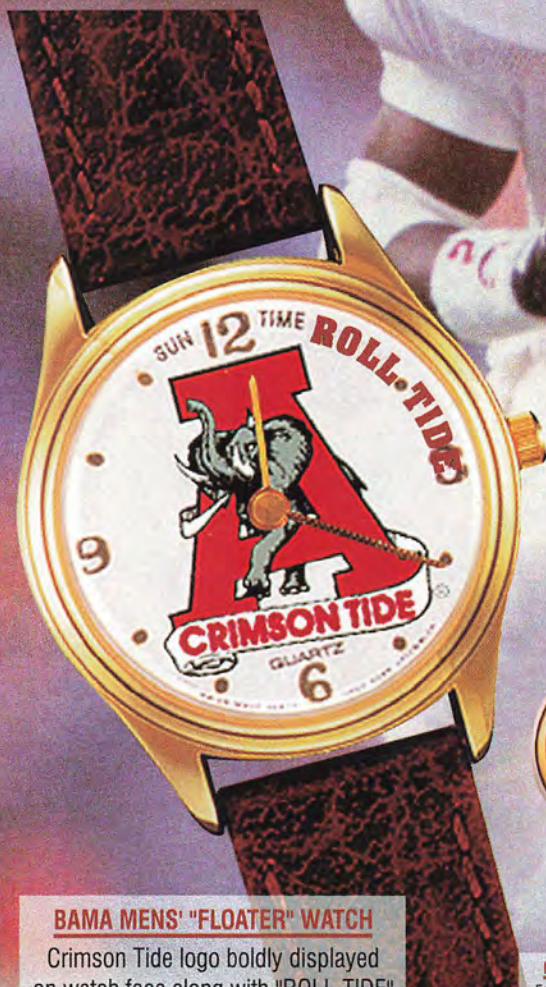
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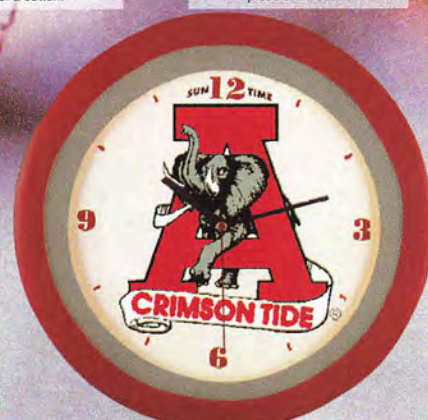
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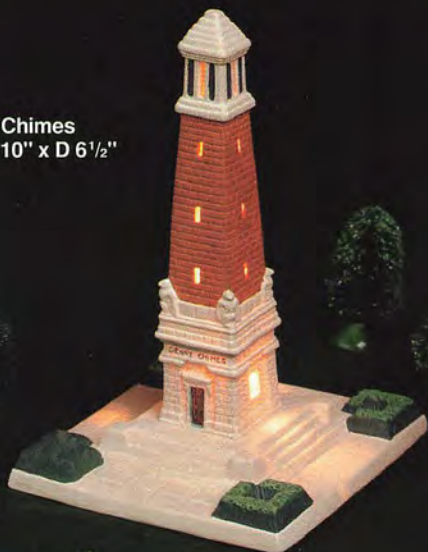
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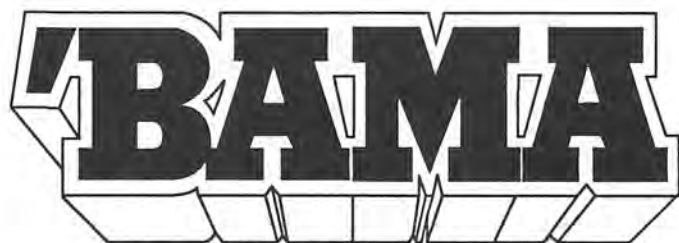
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INSIDE THE CRIMSON TIDE

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Barry Fikes Photo



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Tide May Sign As Many As Six

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by Kirk McNair

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He Wants To Be Dominating

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'Teddy Bear' Needs To Turn It Up

Eric Kerley is a natural noseguard who is having to play defensive tackle in Alabama's 4-3 scheme. Still, he can be a good defensive player if he will work harder, said Alabama Assistant Coach Mike Dubose.

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Wild Thing Is Big Kick For Bama

Junior walk-on William Watts is living a childhood dream playing for the Crimson Tide. He is an absolute specialist now, the kickoff man, but hopes in the future to play more of a role for the Alabama football team.

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Tide Has Renovated For 1995-96

Alabama Head Swimming and Diving Coach Chuck Horton took over the Crimson Tide teams just months before the start of last season. With a year of work and some incoming talent, he expects Bama to be better this year.

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It's Another Good Year In Alabama

Although it is likely that The University of Alabama's recruiting efforts this year will concentrate on the big men, the state of Alabama has some senior prep skill position players who have to get a look.

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Fall Baseball:

Tide Has Reason For High Hopes

Jim Wells took over as Alabama's head baseball coach last year and led the Crimson Tide to a Cinderella season. This year he has a number of top players back, which is reason for great expectations. One job Wells has this year is to guard against complacency.

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BAMA SCORECARD

Signing Dates

Although National Letter of Intent signing dates are subject to change, this year's dates as established by the Collegiate Commissioners Association are:

The early period for most sports, football the primary exception and men's basketball the one of most interest: November 8-15.

Football midyear junior college transfers: December 20-January 14.

Football regular (and women's volleyball and soccer): February 7-April 1.

Late period for men's basketball: April 10-May 13.

Late period for sports other than men's basketball and fall sports: April 10-August 1.

Recruiting Dates

No one can say for sure how much it matters to have an on-campus basketball game on weekends when football prospects are making official visits, but it's a staple of the weekend fare for visiting recruits to take in a basketball game. That won't be the case for Alabama very often this season.

The signing date for football is February 7, and the four weekends prior to that (the last three weekends in January and the first weekend in February) when Alabama will have the majority of its prospects in for official visits, there are no Alabama home men's basketball games.

Date With NCAA

The University of Alabama has a date with the NCAA Infractions Appeals Committee in Atlanta November 16. University officials hope for a quick decision from the committee. Alabama and former Faculty Chairman of Athletics Dr. Tom Jones have filed appeals asking that the charge of unethical conduct against Jones be dropped. Bama is also seeking relief from two of the sanctions against the Tide football program, that of the ban on bowl game participation this year and of a third year of probation (and loss of nine scholarships) in 1997.

It is possible the Appeals Committee will render its decision at that November 16 meeting.

Academic Standards

Beginning this year, the NCAA will institute a sliding scale to determine freshman eligibility. In the past a signee had to have a 2.0 grade point average in the core curriculum and a score of either 17 on the ACT or 700 on the SAT to be eligible.

Beginning this year the standards are higher, but are not absolute. A lower grade point average can be off-set by a good standardized

test score, and vice versa. However, now a signee must have an acceptable grade point average in 13 core courses, which must include four units of English and one unit each of algebra and geometry.

Beginning this year a signee with a 2.5 grade point average in the core will be eligible with a score of either 17 on the ACT or 700 on the SAT. The lowest core grade point average a signee can have is 2.0, and in order to be eligible he would have to have either a 21 on the ACT or a 900 on the SAT.

It has been estimated that 70 per cent of Southeastern Conference athletes signed last year would not have been eligible under the new standards.

Partial Qualifiers

For the first time in several years, the SEC has decided to allow its schools to accept a limited number of signees who are partial qualifiers under NCAA academic standards. A partial qualifier is one who reaches eligibility standards in one area, either grade point average in the core curriculum or on a standardized test, but not on the other. A partial qualifier signee would be eligible for a scholarship and would be allowed to practice, but would not be allowed to participate in games and would lose the year of eligibility.

The SEC voted to allow each member school to sign four male (two football, one basketball, one other sport) and four female (two basketball, two other) partial qualifiers. However, the standards for being a partial qualifier are such that it is unlikely many will be signed. If a prospect makes a 16 on the ACT or 690 on the SAT, he or she must have a grade point average of 2.525. A score of 15 on the ACT or 620 on the SAT requires a grade point average of 2.7.

Surgery For Kaiser

Alabama basketball player Wade Kaiser, a junior inside player, underwent surgery on his left foot the day after Alabama began practice. The surgery was performed in Birmingham at HealthSouth by Dr. Larry Lemak.

Alabama Head Coach David Hobbs said, "Wade's foot did not respond the way we had hoped it would after surgery last year. I am very disappointed for him and for the team that he has had to undergo further surgery."

"With the losses we had following last season, this was going to be Wade's best opportunity since he has been here to come in and play. We are looking forward to him getting back as soon as his rehabilitation is complete."

Kaiser is expected to be in rehabilitation and out of action for six to eight weeks.

Intrasquad Game

How are you going to have an intrasquad game with no more than 10 scholarship players available? Alabama Head Basketball Coach David Hobbs is going to try. On Saturday, November 4, in Coleman Coliseum the Tide will have a scrimmage open to the public.

The starting time of the scrimmage will depend on the kickoff time of the Alabama-LSU game that day at Bryant-Denny Stadium. A good guess is that the football game will begin at 11:30 a.m. (for telecast on the Jefferson Pilot network), which would mean a starting time of about 8 a.m. for the basketball scrimmage.

Following the scrimmage the players and coaches will be available for autographs and photographs and there will be free posters and schedule cards available.

Not Much Respect

It is not surprising that Alabama's 1995-96 men's basketball team is not being given much respect. The first publication on Southeastern basketball to hit our desk was *Lindy's Basketball*. The magazine projected Alabama's overall record at 14-14 and its Southeastern Conference mark at 6-10. Coach David Hobbs' team was picked to finish fifth in the SEC West Division. Only Ole Miss was projected to be weaker. No Tide was picked to make All-SEC.

Good news for the future, though. Alabama's recruiting class was selected 12th best in the nation.

Similar For Women

Alabama Women's Basketball Coach Rick Moody faces similar problems to those of David Hobbs in that the Crimson Tide women's team also is depending on so many newcomers in a rebuilding year. And *Lindy's Basketball* projections reflected the situation, projecting Bama to finish sixth in the 12-team league. And no Tide women were picked as All-SEC, although the magazine noted that Yolanda Watkins would have been an All-SEC and All-America hopeful had she not been lost for the year with a knee injury.

Home Game Counts

Alabama's women's basketball team will be playing Auburn twice this year, January 24 in Tuscaloosa and February 13 in Auburn. Unlike the men, who play each team in their division once and each team in the other di-

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vision twice, the SEC women's basketball schedule calls for only 11 games, every school playing every other school just once. Therefore, only one of the Auburn games will count in the SEC standings. Fortunately, it's the one played in Tuscaloosa.

Here Comes Softball

Alabama Athletics Director Dr. Glen Tuckett didn't waste any time in making a major decision. Within his first few weeks on the job Tuckett announced that Alabama would add women's softball as a varsity sport beginning in 1996-97. The addition will give Alabama 20 sports, 11 for women and nine for men.

First order of business is getting a coach, and the search has already begun, Tuckett said.

Few SEC schools currently have women's softball, but a majority of the league's schools have made plans to add the sport.

NCAA Representation

Alabama has relatively little representation on NCAA committees, but junior Crimson Tide gymnast Meredith Willard has begun her term on the NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. Willard, a scholastic and athletic All-America and the 1994 SEC Freshman of the Year, is the first Alabama student-athlete to sit on an NCAA committee. The committee is made up of 28 men and women student-athletes.

Nationally-Ranked

Junior Alabama men's golfer Chip Deason of Centreville has moved into the national Rolex Collegiate Rankings. The rankings are statistically determined on the basis of performance.

Deason is ranked 63rd in the national poll, which will be updated November 8. Deason has been the Tide's strongest player in an ambitious fall tournament that includes the Tournament of Champions in Knoxville, the Red River Classic in Dallas, and Alabama's own Jerry Pate National Collegiate at Shoal Creek in Birmingham.

Deason was second team All-SEC last year after finishing fourth individually at the SEC Championships in Nashville. He is ranked seventh in the South's District 3, a region which includes no fewer than five national-ly-ranked teams.

Curtis Cup Captain

Former Alabama women's golf star Martha Jones (now Mrs. Ken Lang) has been selected as non-playing captain of the 1996 United States Curtis Cup team. Lang, a native of Decatur who now lives in Mandeville, Louisiana, is an accomplished player (she made it to the quarterfinals of

this year's United States Women's Mid-Amateur, a tournament she won in 1988), but as captain of the Curtis Cup team she will be responsible for making the line-ups for the matches.

The Curtis Cup pits eight American amateur women golfers against eight from Great Britain and Ireland. The matches will be played June 21-22 at Killarney (Ireland) Golf & Fishing Club.

Lang was a member of the Curtis Cup team in 1992 and was the top scorer for the United States squad, which lost 10-8. Lang won her two singles matches and halved a foursomes match. The United Kingdom retained the Curtis Cup as a result of a tie in the 1994 matches. This will be the 29th Curtis Cup, which is played every other year, and the first played in Ireland.

Lang was a four-time winner of the Alabama State Junior Girls Championship. At Alabama she was Bama's number one player for four years and represented the Tide in the 1973-75 NCAA Women's Golf Championships. While at Alabama she won the Alabama State and Women's Southern and finished third in the Intercollegiate one year, fourth two years.

Cross Country Stars

The men's and women's cross country teams of Coach David Troy have been nationally ranked through most of the season. The Tide teams were to compete in the SEC Championships in Orlando October 30, then go to NCAA District Championships November 11 and the NCAA Championships in Ames, Iowa, on November 20.

Junior Faizal Emamaullee has been the bright spot for the men's team. He has been the Tide's top performer in every race and has finished no worse than seven in every event this year, including three first place finishes. He entered the season as a returning All-SEC and All-NCAA District performer.

On the women's side, sophomore Jessica Fry got off to a slow start because of injury, but has since come on to be Bama's top performer, including a seventh place finish at the prestigious Notre Dame Invitational.

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Tide May Sign As Many As Six

by Kirk McNair

Basketball recruiters have many of nation's top stars considering Crimson Tide

When David Hobbs was selected as Alabama's head basketball coach, there were no questions about his coaching ability. Former Tide Head Coach Wimp Sanderson had given Hobbs much of the credit for Bama's considerable success. However, because Hobbs had not been involved in recruiting, there were concerns about how that aspect of Alabama basketball would be handled.

The jury seems to be in on that score. Alabama basketball recruiting has ranked very high in recent years.

Now Tide coaches are finishing up work on a handful of high school prospects in hopes of signing some of them in the early signing period, November 8-15. There is a second spring signing period.

Alabama is currently two under the limit of 13 scholarshiped players and has four seniors, so the Tide will be trying to sign six new players this year. Ordinarily Alabama does not attempt to sign junior college players in the early signing period. Information for this article came from a number of sources, including national recruiting ex-



David Hobbs

perts Brick Oettinger of *Recruiter's Handbook* in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and Van Coleman of *Future Stars* in Rochester, Michigan.

Last year, for the first time in several years, there was a national prospect in the state of Alabama, Brian Williams of Jeff Davis High School in Montgomery. Alabama landed Williams. Now the Tide is going after another national prospect in the state, among some four in-state players who are generally regarded as major college prospects.

Julius Robinson, a 6-2, 175-pound point guard at Selma, is regarded as one of the nation's top 50 players. He is not yet academically eligible, but is very close. He made an unofficial visit to Florida State and has narrowed his choices to FSU and Alabama. Robinson is described as a great floor leader, penetrator and assist man who can also hit the outside jumper. He is also considered an excellent clutch free throw shooter. He was the only junior to make 6A all-state last year as he averaged 19.5 points and 8.5 assists for Coach Willie Maxey.

The big surprise in Alabama may be Jeremy Hays, a 6-9, 215-pound inside player from Boaz. Hays averaged 23 points, 12 rebounds and five blocked shots for Coach Eric Dyar in leading Boaz to a 22-6 record last year. He hit

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As of October 1, 1995, The Downtown Gallery will be under new ownership and management, with Eufaula native, Ms. Sherrill Croy, being the new owner. I encourage all clients of The Downtown Gallery to continue your business relationship with the gallery, and can assure you that the quality, service, prices and commitment on which I built The Downtown Gallery will always be present. The Downtown Gallery will continue providing Bama fans with the best selection of quality sports art in the country, along with the best prices. And I will continue servicing my Daniel Moore collectors through either The Downtown Gallery in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, or through my new office located in Decatur, Alabama.

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Sincerely,

Mark A. McBride

64 per cent of his field goals and 78 per cent of his free throws. He's considering Alabama, Auburn, Tennessee and Vanderbilt and plans to sign early. He is academically eligible.

The Jeff Davis team that Williams led to the state championship last year has two possible prospects back this year. Roderick Murray is a 6-7 power forward and Isaac Spencer a 6-6 wing forward for Coach Wilbert Hamilton, are being watched by college recruiters, but neither is expected to sign early.

There are other Alabama prep players who are listed as prospects, but the Tide has not been linked with them in the early period. They include Torrey Ward, a 6-4 guard at Birmingham Phillips; Jeremy Beasley, a 6-9 center at Jasper Walker; Desmond Walker, a 6-7 power forward at Greeneville; Jerrick Kellum, a 6-5 forward at Huntsville Lee; Billy Hutchins, a 6-2 wing guard at Stevenson North Jackson; and Tavaris Davis, a 6-7 power forward at Birmingham Ramsay. In the probable event that Alabama does not sign six prospects in the early signing period, these in-state players will be watched during the year.

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The top prospect in the nation with whom Alabama has been most frequently mentioned is Lester Earl, a 6-9, 215-pound inside player who has led Baton Rouge (Louisiana) Glen Oaks to back-to-back state championships. Earl had home visits from coaches at Alabama, LSU, Kentucky, UNLV, Grambling and Kansas. His coach, Harvey Adger, said, "Right now I'm just concerned with Lester going to school

and getting his test scores together. He's been overwhelmed with all the attention at times. But if he's not academically sound, all the recruiting will be academic." His coach said Earl has a great work ethic to go with his skills, but also said he didn't expect him to sign in the early period.

Also in Louisiana, Alabama is thought to be among the leaders for Eugene Edgerson, a 6-7, 200-pound forward at New Orleans St. Augustine. He is an honor student and has said he will sign early. Colorado, Arizona, UNLV, Pittsburgh and Maryland are on his list after he eliminated Kentucky and Georgetown, and LSU is probably in the picture. Edgerson was particularly impressive in earning MVP honors at the Las Vegas AAU Showdown this summer as he scored 41 and 38 points in the two games.

The state of Mississippi has been good for Alabama in recent years, and once again the Magnolia State has a number of top prospects. The number one player in Mississippi is Quentin Smith, a 6-10, 220-pound center at Vicksburg. He is considering Alabama, Florida and LSU, among others. Academics is no problem. He has a 4.1

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grade point average in an accelerated program.

Some services say that Alabama is also involved with Mario Bland, a 6-7, 250-pounder at Jackson Callaway. LSU, Iowa and Mississippi State are others linked to Bland. However, he did not accept home visits because he is not academically qualified.

Alabama is also reported to be involved with a couple of players in Florida.

Ron Hale is a 6-8, 200-pound forward at Largo who is described as a good rebounder, ball-handler and outside shooter. He's being recruited by the in-state schools, Florida and FSU, and by Connecticut, among others.

In Tallahassee, Kristopher Hunter is a 6-9, 210-pound power forward and center at Florida A&M High School who has been mentioned with Alabama, but who is more likely to stay in-state, at FSU or Florida, and

who is not eligible and not expected to sign early.

Earlier the Tide had been linked with Jermaine Walker, a 6-8 forward at Pompano Beach Ely, but Walker has committed to Miami.

Georgia provided Bama with an outstanding signee in the early period last year when Anton Reese of Lithonia picked the Tide. This year Alabama is back in Georgia, involved with Randy Hughes, a 6-9, 210-pound inside player at Swainsboro; Alfred Moss, a 6-8 strong forward at Newnan; and Mark Kimbrough, a 6-5 swing forward at Dawson Terrell County. Earlier the Tide had been linked with Lavar Postell, a 6-4 shooting guard at Albany Westover, but he has committed to St. John's.

It would seem that about the most unlikely spot Alabama could expect to have any recruiting success would be Fayetteville, Arkansas, where Nolan Richardson's Razorbacks have a national championship pennant on the wall. But Alabama is involved with one of the nation's top players from Fayetteville, 6-6, 200-pound small forward Nicky Bradford of Fayetteville High School.

Actually, there are more unlikely places for Alabama to recruit than Arkansas. It's no secret that Hobbs and Tide Assistant Coach Thad Fitzpatrick have spent time in Europe in the past few months. There have been rumors of prospects from such places as France, Germany, and Croatia.

Additionally, Alabama has been linked with a player from Africa who is in his second year of play in the United States. Patrick Ngongba is from the Central African Republic, but is playing at Calvert Hall High School in Ellicott City, Maryland. Last year he averaged 18 points, 12 rebounds and 4 blocked shots per game. He is 6-8, 225 and has a 3.4 grade point average. It should come as no surprise that Houston is among the schools who have shown interest in Ngongba. He's also heard from LSU, Massachusetts, DePaul and Providence.

While junior college signees ordinarily come in the late signing period, Alabama has been linked to at least one junior college player. Ruben Patterson, a 6-7 forward at Independence (Kansas) Community College, is said to be considering Alabama, Ohio State, Massachusetts, Arizona State, Cincinnati, Arizona and Fresno State. Patterson is originally from Cleveland, Ohio.

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He Wants To Be Dominating

by Kirk McNair

Sophomore tight end has the potential to be a big weapon in Tide offense

At some point, almost every athlete at some level has thought to himself, "Hey, Coach. Put me in!" Alabama tight ends don't have to worry with that nicety. If Rod Rutledge is ready to go into the game, he just tells his tight end teammates, Tony Johnson and Patrick Hape. No, Alabama's football team isn't anarchic. There's a method to this seeming madness.

"When I was in the press box I could monitor the substitution pattern," Alabama

Assistant Head Coach Woody McCorvey explained. "Now I'm on the sidelines handling the plays from the press box to the huddle, so I don't have time to make the substitutions during the game. We have it worked out in advance. The reason we are able to do that is because Tony, Rod and Patrick can all do the job. What I don't want is a situation like we had sometimes last year where Patrick would have 45 snaps and Tony 20 and Rod eight. Against North Carolina State, for instance, we had Tony getting 24 snaps, Rod and Patrick both getting 22. That keeps everyone fresh. What we want is for each one to have about seven or eight snaps, and then get a breather."

McCorvey, who coaches tight ends, flankers and split ends, said if there was a certain play called that is best with a certain tight end in the game, he makes sure that tight end is in.

Rutledge said that Tony has senior status in this rotation. "If Tony wants to play, that's pretty much it," Rutledge said. "After all, he's a fifth year senior. I've got two more years. But he's pretty good about sharing it, and if I say I'm going in, that suits him. And sometimes, if Tony doesn't like the play that's called, he'll have me come in." That play would be a block against a big defensive end, Rutledge hinted.

Rutledge is 6-5, 260, what he considers to be his best playing weight. "Yeah," he agreed with a laugh, "that is a little light for an offensive tackle."

Indeed, Alabama tight ends get playing time based primarily on how they block. "I hate being a tackle, but even the wide receivers sometimes feel like tackles with no more passes than they get," Rutledge said. "I can't fault Brian (quarterback Brian Burgdorff). He's doing his best. It just takes

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time to be a quarterback, and even though he's a senior, he doesn't have a lot of experience. But you can see every week that the passing game is becoming more important to the offense."

The offense seems to have made a change since the beginning of the year. With the only proven fullback, Ed Scissum, injured, Alabama put its offensive eggs into the rover basket, putting Hape in the backfield. "When we had two tight ends or one tight end and a rover, it meant more playing time for me than it does with three of us sharing the tight end spot," Rutledge said. "Now there are just certain situations where we have two tight ends in the game. That lowers my reps, but if it helps the team, I'm all for it."

And, Rutledge said, "I may not be on the field as much with Patrick back at tight end, but in that offense (with a true fullback) we're liable to have more passes. Personally, I'd rather have more time on the field and fewer passes."

Rutledge has a fairly simple philosophy when it comes to football. "When I'm on the field, I want to do the best I can, 100 percent on every play. And when the game is

over, I want to find out what my mistakes were and work the next week in correcting them. That's what football is all about."

Although Rutledge has not been on the receiving end of many passes, McCorvey looks for that to change. "We haven't gotten the ball to him like we need to," McCorvey said. "He can be a big part of the offense because he can not only catch the ball, he can run with it. And when he gets in the secondary, he's a load for a defensive back. He can be a weapon. We've got that in our offense, but we've just got to be patient."

McCorvey said that Rutledge has made great strides since coming to Alabama. "He really had a good spring, but then he fell off a little during two-a-days and fell behind Tony," McCorvey said. "He's made a lot of improvement this fall. He had a heck of a block on a screen pass in the North Carolina State game. He's got a lot of potential. We've just got to utilize it."

Rutledge realizes that blocking is the key to playing time. "Usually we're blocking on a lineman," he said. "Some teams are using smaller defensive ends now, but some use big ones. Either way, it's ten times tougher to block a guy in a three-point stance than it is to block an outside linebacker who's stand-

ing up." Rutledge said that McCorvey has given the tight ends "good training on how to block those big linemen. I think we've done a good job."

Still, Rutledge wants to catch passes. "In practice, catching passes comes easy to me, even the tough passes," he said. "But in a game, it's more difficult, maybe because I haven't been out there much. But every week I feel more confident."

He said he is also pleased that Alabama appears to be passing more, particularly on first down. "I think that helps the running game, too," he said. Rutledge said in a recent game when the huddle broke he told Burgdorf, "Watch the tight end." And, Rutledge said, "Brian looked for me." Unfortunately, Burgdorf saw that Rutledge was covered, so the quarterback had to scramble, picking up about 20 yards.

Rutledge said that having a quarterback with the ability to scramble is "great, because he can pick up a first down and keep a drive alive. When Jay (former quarterback Jay Barker) tried to scramble it was ugly." The tight end said he usually doesn't know if Burgdorf is scrambling "until he's by me."

Rutledge was an outstanding tight end and defensive end for Coach Hal Riddle at Erwin High School in Birmingham. He was in demand by the college football elite. Although he grew up a Miami fan ("All I knew was what I saw watching on television, and Miami looked like they were having fun playing football," he said.), but the Hurricanes didn't begin recruiting him until very late. He made recruiting trips to Texas and Tennessee, and didn't like either, so he cancelled a recruiting visit to Florida and narrowed his choices to Alabama and Auburn.

"Recruiting changes how you feel about a school," he said. "On a recruiting visit you learn about the school and the football program from the players who are there. A lot of my teammates will tell you that Alabama wasn't their favorite school growing up, but when we came here and saw what Alabama football was all about and what The University has to offer, it changes your ideas."

He said that both Alabama and Auburn "had a lot to offer, but Auburn seemed more of an agricultural school and Alabama more of a business school, and I was more interested in business." He has since changed his major

Sophomore tight end Rod Rutledge can be a big offensive weapon for the Crimson Tide if Bama's offense will figure out a way to get the ball to him.

Barry Fikes Photo

'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/NOVEMBER '95



from accounting to education with plans to be a high school football coach. He also said that growing up, "When Alabama played Auburn, I was for Alabama. And my sister went here." But the primary reason he picked Alabama was Tide Head Coach Gene Stallings.

"Coach Stallings really came across well," Rutledge said. "He even did a magic trick when he visited in my home. And he didn't put any pressure on me to commit like everyone was doing. He told me he'd have a scholarship for me whenever I decided. And he said he wanted me for offense, which is what I wanted."

Ironically, shortly after arriving at Alabama Rutledge went to Stallings to see if he could try playing defense. "I like them both and

just wanted to try defense," Rutledge said. "He said he wanted me on offense, that the team needed me there. I'm willing to do whatever it takes. Wherever they put me, I'm going to do my best."

Rutledge said the best thing about being at Alabama "is my teammates. I've always heard that the friends you make in college will be your friends for life, and I couldn't ask for any better guys to be lifelong friends. We get along great."

So far, he said, the best experience he has had is playing in the Florida Citrus Bowl in Orlando last season. "It was my first bowl game," he said, "and it meant staying at the best hotel, eating the best food, and going to

Disney World and Epcot Center and MGM and Universal studios. And I didn't have to spend my own money to take a trip to somewhere I'd never been."

Rutledge played in every Tide game as a freshman last year, playing both on special teams and as a tight end when Alabama was in short yardage situations. He caught his first pass this year, an eight-yard reception against Arkansas.

Rutledge has a few fantasies. "The first one would be to catch a touchdown pass," he said. "But more than that, I want to be a dominating player. And then I'd like to be on the cover of *Sports Illustrated*."

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'Teddy Bear' Needs To Turn It Up

by Donald F. Staffo

Former Auburn fan wants to be a factor on defense, but he's got to work harder

Sometimes a trip can give one a whole new perspective. It worked for Eric Kerley, sophomore Alabama defensive tackle.

"I was a big Auburn fan all the way through high school," Kerley said. "My senior year I was in the stands for the Alabama-Auburn game cheering for Auburn and glad they won. At the time Auburn was my top choice."

Kerley, who was one of the state's top high school prospects at Berry High School in Birmingham, admitted that he planned to sign with Auburn in February, 1994. But he agreed to make a recruiting trip to Alabama in January. "I only came here to visit, eat the food, and see what they had to offer," Kerley said. However, upon visiting The University, Kerley's entire perspective changed.

"The coaches, Coach Stallings and all the assistants, have such respect for the players," Kerley said. "I didn't see that anywhere else. That's when I went from orange and blue to crimson and white. When I got here, I just felt at home. I had a good time. I felt comfortable. I had to see past the colors. I prayed about it and I felt this was the place for me."

Auburn wasn't the only school Alabama had to beat for Kerley's services. He was a two-time all-state player and an All-America as a senior under the late Coach Bob Finley at Berry. He was selected to play in the East-West All-America Bowl in Pennsylvania. Auburn and Alabama were calling, but so were Georgia, Tennessee and Florida State, among others.

"I knew I would get a good education wherever I went, and all the schools had good athletics programs," Kerley said. "Alabama's atmosphere and tradition made the difference. There's no doubt I made the right decision. It's a thrill to be



Sophomore Eric Kerley has the physical attributes to be a fine defensive lineman, even though he is probably a natural noseguard having to play the tackle position in Alabama's 4-3 defensive alignment. Barry Fikes Photo

able to pull on that crimson jersey and run through the tunnel on Saturdays and play for Alabama."

The level of comfort that Kerley felt as a prospect has changed a bit since he became a Tider. The 6-1, 285-pounder saw limited action in 10 games as a true freshman last year, backing up both Shannon Brown and Matt Parker on the defensive line. Unfortunately for Kerley's hopes for increased playing time, Brown and Parker are both back this year, as are other defensive tackles, such as Ozell Powell and end-tackle players Elverett Brown and Kendrick Burton.

"There's just so much talent out there on the field," Kerley said. "It goes back to the tradition here. Everyone has to wait his turn. I understand the situation, but I

wouldn't say I'm content," he said. "I work hard, but we have so many defensive linemen who are pretty good players and who also work hard. That's good for the team. We rotate players in and out a lot, which keeps everyone fresh. I think that's an advantage we have over the opposition."

Kerley, who bench presses 450 pounds and squats 625 and runs a 4.9-second 40-yard dash, believes that he can be an Alabama starter in his final two seasons. "If I work hard. I'm just waiting for those seniors to leave."

Alabama Assistant Coach Mike Dubose, who coaches the Tide defensive line, appreciates Kerley's "team first" attitude, but wants more action from the big sophomore. Kerley averaged about 15 plays per game through the first half of the season.

Dubose said, "He should be playing 20 to 25 plays per game, and he would be if he played hard and well on every play. By playing hard, I mean playing at full speed. Eric and I are not on the same page yet on what it means to play full speed."

Dubose said Kerley has the attributes he wants in a defensive lineman. "He's strong, he's smart, he's quick, he's explosive," said Dubose. "But he doesn't use all those assets in game situations." The Tide coach expects to see that combination of assets come together in the near future for Alabama. Dubose added that Kerley has what it takes "to play at the next level. But," the coach added, "he needs to have higher expectations for himself. He thinks he's playing hard, but right now he's not playing hard all the time."

Kerley believes that Alabama's switch from a 3-4 defense to a 4-3 was not in his best personal interest. The 3-4, with three defensive linemen and four linebackers, is best against the option game, and thus is becoming something of a dodo bird in college football, where the pro-style passing game is in vogue.

Kerley said he was recruited as a noseguard, when Alabama was in the 3-4. "A noseguard is usually short, stocky, and quick," he said. "I'm quick and not as tall as a lot of linebackers, so I'm probably better suited to be a noseguard. But after I got here we switched to the 4-3 and I became a tackle."

Kerley's prep statistics support his performance as a noseguard. As a senior he made 91 tackles, including three quarterback sacks (a noseguard is ordinarily double-teamed and doesn't often make sacks), 10 tackles behind the line, and 21 quarterback pressures. And he missed three games as a senior with a knee injury.

Kerley has also had some success at Alabama. In the season-opener at Vanderbilt he turned in a sack at the Vandy one-yard line. "I almost got a safety," he said. "That's what I wanted." Against Georgia he recovered a fumble that led to a Tide touchdown.

Kerley said he has always been considered "a teddy bear off the field, but on the field I've never had any problem turning it on; especially with Coach Dubose pushing me. God blessed me with talent, and I want to use it to the best of my ability."

Dubose believes that Kerley will be a good player, but said the business major will "go far in life. He's a great person, a fine young man off the field."

Kerley wants to help the Tide win a national championship, and, like all players at the level at which Alabama plays, hopes

to have a chance to play professionally. But, he said, "I'm not counting on the NFL. I'm making plans to be ready to go into business."

But before he gets that degree, he wants to land a first team job on the Alabama defensive line.

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William Watts:

Wild Thing Is Big Kick For Bama

by John Barnes

**Walk-on kickoff specialist
hopes for expanded role
in final season next year**

During his tenure as head coach, Gene Stallings has always relied heavily on the role player. Although not unique to Alabama, Stallings and his staff seem to truly appreciate, even embrace, the efforts of an individual satisfied to excel in one particular area.

One such player is kickoff specialist William Watts. Living out a childhood dream of playing for the Crimson Tide, Watts is an integral part of the Tide kicking game. Dubbed "Wild Thing" by his teammates, Watts is happy with his role, but sees bigger things for himself on the horizon.

"What I do is very limited, so I try to do it well," said the junior walk-on from Pleasant Grove. "Sure, I would like to kick field goals, but we've got one of the best kickers in the country in Michael Proctor, so I just have to be patient."

Midway through his third season handling kickoff duties for the Tide, Watts feels he provides a valuable service for the team. "Most people don't realize how important it really is," he said. "A good kick can mean the difference between a team starting inside the 20 or at the 35 or 40. That 15 or 20 yards can make the difference in a ball game. I usually try to land the ball at or just inside the goal line. If you can create a moment of indecision with the return man, our coverage team has a good chance of making a big play."

Alabama's walk on program is no doubt one of the strongest in the country. Stallings places great emphasis on the value of people like Watts. With Bama playing under reduced scholarship limitations (and particularly if the

William Watts likens a kickoff to a golf swing, strong and smooth. His goal is to start the opposing offense at their own 20-yard line.

Barry Fikes Photo





Tide's NCAA appeal is unsuccessful), Bama walk-ons could play an even bigger role in the future.

For Watts and his family, the decision to forgo a possible scholarship and walk on at Alabama was never in doubt.

An all-state kicker and team captain at Pleasant Grove, Watts was offered scholarships from both North Alabama and Cincinnati. "I'd be lying if I said I would not like to be on scholarship," said Watts. "When I visited Cincinnati, I had pretty much already decided to come to Alabama, but I tried to keep an open mind. It just didn't seem like a good college atmosphere for me. I also had to think about where I would get my degree, so it really wasn't a tough decision."

Arriving on campus in 1993, Watts impressed coaches and teammates with a very strong, but very unpredictable leg. Proctor was already established as the team's starting placekicker, even making some All-America teams as a sophomore. Stallings, however, was in search of someone with a strong leg to handle kickoff duties, an element of the Tide attack severely lacking in 1992. Things got so bad late in 1992, Stallings found himself instructing Tide kickers to place the ball toward the sideline, allowing the coverage team to converge to one spot on the field. It is rumored that Stallings was overheard asking his assistants, "Do we have ANYONE who can kick it past the 20?"

Enter the Wild Thing. Watts kicked off in 11 of the Tide's 12 games in 1993, giving the Tide coverage unit an opportunity to do its job and prevent the long run. Although not particularly accurate, when Watts did hit one true, the ball not only cleared the goal line, but on some occasions, the end line as well.

"I'd like to think it helped the defense," said Watts. "When a team starts at the 20 instead of the 40 it dictates what they can do offensively and it can't help but benefit the defense. Field position is so important to the coaches and I think that's where I've helped the most."

By 1994, Watts was becoming a fan favorite, with the Million Dollar Band playing the Troggs' song "Wild Thing" when he ran on the field. The nickname was pinned on him by teammates in 1993, with the media soon catching on. The name comes from the film "Major League," in which Charlie Sheen plays a pitcher with an incredibly strong arm, but with very little control.

"I don't mind it," said Watts. "It gives people something to identify with. It gets me pretty fired up when the band plays 'Wild Thing.' If I start kicking field goals, though, we may have to re-think that." Indeed. Calling a field goal kicker "Wild Thing" would be tantamount to calling a quarterback "Spaghetti Arm."

The technique of kicking off is certainly not as easy as it appears. For Watts it requires tremendous amounts of repetition. "No, it's not as easy as it looks," he said. "I practice a lot not only on distance, but on placement as well. You have to look at the return team and how they're lined up. If they're lined up heavy to the left, then I try to kick it to the right and so on. Whatever it takes to get our guys down there before the returner has a chance to hit a seam."

An avid golfer, Watts likens kicking a football to swinging a golf club. "It's very much the same principle," he said. "It's a pendulum-type thing. When you play golf, you want to take a hard but smooth swing at the ball. I try to apply the same principle to kicking. What most people don't realize is that I kick with the tee sideways, which I think makes the ball fly a little more true. I usually try to put the ball between the hash mark and the sideline. It's really a combination of strength and technique."

Bama recruiting coordinator Randy Ross has followed Watts' development over the last three years. "We invited William to walk on because we knew he had a strong leg and we really



Junior kickoff specialist William Watts is living a childhood dream playing for the Crimson Tide. He hopes next year he can win the job as the Bama field goal and extra point man.

Barry Fikes Photo

needed someone we could count on to put the ball at or beyond the goal line on a consistent basis," said Ross. So far, he's really done the job for us. He's got an unbelievably strong leg. I've seen him kick field goals in practice better than 60 yards."

As Michael Proctor is a senior, the question most asked by Tide fans is "will we sign a kicker this winter?" "I wish I could answer that," said Ross. "A lot depends on what happens with the NCAA. Aside from Watts, we've got two freshmen who can kick so we won't be totally depleted. I think William can do the job, but he certainly needs to work on his accuracy a little."

The thought of running on the field to kick a potential game-winning field goal gives Watts hope for the future. "I believe I will be the

starter next year," he said. "I've learned a lot from watching Michael because I think he's the best in the business. When the season is over this year, I'll start working on being more accurate and I'll practice all summer. By the time next fall rolls around, I hope the coaches will not have any second thoughts about putting me in there. I know I can do it, I just need to prove it to everyone. There won't be as much of a drop-off as everyone thinks."

As for this season, Watts feels he could step in and do the job anytime. "If something were to happen to Michael, I know I could do the job. I kick field goals every day in practice. More than anything else, I'd just have to change my approach. I've got confidence in myself. If I didn't, I wouldn't be here."

Barring an unforeseen circumstance, it is unlikely that fans will get a glimpse of Watts kicking field goals this season. Watts is satisfied to continue kicking off and is patiently waiting his turn to be the hero. If he does emerge as the Tide's starting place kicker in 1996, just remember: Please don't call him Wild Thing.

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Tide Has Renovated For 1995-96

by Andrew Varble II

Horton came on board late last year, but has had year to ready for this season

The renovations to the Alabama Aquatic Center, the home of the Crimson Tide swimming and diving teams, are breath-taking. The main competition and practice pool received a major overhaul. The water was drained from the 50-meter by 25-yard pool, the bottom was scrubbed clean and re-tiled, then scrubbed again. The deck was scrubbed and re-painted with crimson highlights to remind fans and opponents whose house they are in. The walls were painted and new lights were put up. The results made an already good facility even better.

The same can be said for Coach Chuck Horton's second Crimson Tide squad. After replacing former Tide mentor and current

U.S. National Coach Jonty Skinner, in August of last year, Horton had a very short amount of time to prepare for the coming season. This season is a different story. Horton has been working for a year for this season. He has scoured the country to build up a men's team decimated by graduation after the 1994 season and to improve an already strong women's team that has enjoyed three straight years in the nation's top 15. The result is a renovation of both teams that has made them stronger and taken them a step closer to the ultimate goals of Southeastern Conference and NCAA titles.

"Last year I kind of hit the ground running," Horton said. "Things happened so fast that I really didn't have any time to sit around and think about what was happening. This year, though, all through the summer I was working on this season and this team, and the more I did, the more excited I was about the possibilities."

Under Horton's tutelage, last season's teams combined for 13 dual meet wins, more than any Crimson Tide squad since 1990. Sprinter

Stacy Potter finished second at the NCAA Championships in the 100 butterfly, Alabama's highest individual finish since 1983. Distance ace Ann-Sofie Joensson broke the 19-year old 1650 freestyle school record at the NCAA Championships, becoming the Tide's first distance All-America since 1982 in the process. Diver Rafael Alvarez earned two SEC titles on his way to being named SEC Diver of the Year. Alex Voris continued his charge toward the Tide's sprint freestyle records, posting career best times in the 50 and 200 freestyles while earning All-America honors in process. All this in a year when Horton had to "hit the ground running."

On the women's side of the slate, graduation robbed the Tide of some blue-chip talent but Horton recruited athletes who will make an immediate impact. Talented newcomers combined with a strong corps of returners promises an exciting year.

"We lost some real talent to graduation," Horton said. "Two SEC champions, Katherine Rhodes and Jill Tappen, along



Alabama swimming and diving fortunes this year will depend in great part on the performances of (left to right) Stacy Potter, Amy DeVasher, Tom Forrest and Russ McDowell. Bama will be competing this year in a refurbished Alabama Aquatic Center facility.

Barry Fikes Photo

'BAMA, Inside The Crimson Tide/NOVEMBER '95

with our other losses, will be missed. But we still have a tremendous amount of talent returning and I am excited about this freshman class."

Potter could very well bring home Alabama's first national title since 1983. The Americus, Georgia, native is one of the premiere 100 butterflyers in the country and after her runner-up finish in that event last season, she is racing for a title this season. The 13-time All-America's versatility is one reason she has a three-year MVP streak going. She holds the school records in the 50 and 100 freestyles and the 100 butterfly and 100 backstroke. The Tide will continue to depend on her as the team's mainstay.

Tuscaloosa native Amy DeVasher returns for her senior season on the heels of winning the Bryant Scholar-Athlete award in 1995. The award signifies Alabama's top scholar/athlete and is the highest individual honor given by the athletics department. The three-time All-America is a member of three school record relays as well as being a member of several campus honoraries.

Sophomore Karen Jones earned honorable mention All-America swimming the butterfly leg on the Tide's medley relays. The Birmingham native finished fourth in the 100 butterfly at the SEC Championships and bettered her personal best in that event by more than a second. Jones also produced Alabama's top 200 'fly time last season, shaving four seconds off her personal best.

Freshman Rania Elwani will make a big impact for the Tide this season. A member of the Egyptian national team, Elwani finaled at the 1995 Pan Pacific Games in the 50, 100 and 200 freestyles. She is one of the top sprinters in the world and will make her presence known almost immediately.

Albuquerque, New Mexico, native Jenny Dudley will be a large factor in the Tide's backstroke lane. A 1992 U.S. Olympic Trials participant, Dudley set the independent high school record in the 100 back last season. She is also a former member of the U.S. Junior National Team.

Michelle Wise of Birmingham will help the Tide in the freestyle and butterfly events. Besides winning the Alabama 200 freestyle title, Wise competed at the 1994 U.S. Olympic Festival.

The loss of 1995 SEC Platform champion Jill Tappen to graduation robs the Tide of one of the nation's premiere divers. All-America Dana Bleich, returning for her junior year, should be able to step up and fill the void. Sophomore Jill DeVasher, sister of senior sprinter Amy, made great strides last year and this summer she was a competitor

at the U.S. National Championships. The addition of prep standout Jen Buffington of Brandon, Florida, to the Tide's ranks should ensure a quality showing from the divers.

The Alabama men's team faced last season decimated by both graduation and injuries, but it still managed to post more dual meet wins than any other Tide team in the last five years and post its 25th straight top-30 finish.

"Last season was tough," Horton said. "We

had, and still have, some very talented upperclassmen but we were missing some pieces that would make the difference in our scoring ability."

Alabama returns four athletes who have NCAA Championship experience and that will be the core of the current squad. Horton has also recruited several newcomers who should go a long way toward filling the holes.

"There is some real talent in our freshman class," Horton said. "We're not where we

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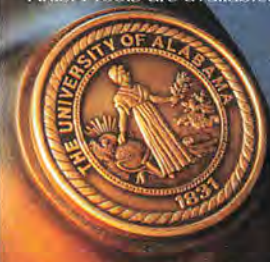
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need to be in terms of numbers, but we're getting there."

The Crimson Tide returns some talented sprinters but Horton will look to his rookies to make an impact in the distance events. Seniors Tom Forrest, Russell McDowell and Voris will lead the charge for the Tide this season.

Forrest transferred to Alabama last season and found that the surroundings were conducive to fast swimming. The Vineland, New Jersey, native made his first trip to the NCAA Championships in 1995. With his best

swimming ahead of him, Forrest looks to make a bigger impact in both the SEC and NCAA this season.

McDowell is the Tide's most versatile swimmer. Already known for his butterfly and individual medley prowess, McDowell added backstroke excellence to his resumé last season. The Wichita, Kansas, native posted the Tide's best 100 and 200 back, 200 'fly and 400 IM times for last year. The two-year All-America returns ready for duty wherever the Tide needs him in 1996.

Voris posted career times in both the 50 and 200 freestyles in 1995. A fierce competitor, the two-year All-America will be a Tide mainstay on relays and in the 50 through 500 freestyles.

Junior Adam McBride returns to the Tide this year after a break out sophomore season. The Birmingham native stepped into the void created by the graduation of 1994 NCAA 100 breaststroke runner-up Travis Myers and went on to drop a second off his 100 breast time and five seconds off his 200 breast time.

The Tide's 'starting lineup' for its medley relays, at least to start the season, will be made up of McDowell in backstroke, McBride in breaststroke, Forrest in butterfly and Voris in freestyle.

Freshman Kris Fisher comes to the Tide as one of the top sprinters in Canada. Fisher, beyond his individual scoring ability, will be a very welcomed addition to the Tide's freestyle relays.

With Voris, Forrest and Fisher in place for the Tide's sprint relays, Horton is looking for someone to step up and claim the fourth spot. An ever-improving Brian Tribble, a junior, is one possibility as is a stretch by distance-oriented Arnar Olafsson, also a junior.

As for the rest of the freshman class, distance is the theme. Of Alabama's six freshmen, four are listed as distance swimmers with only Fisher and diver Brent Roberts breaking the mold. An abundance of distance swimmers is not a bad thing for Alabama. The Tide suffered on the distance front last season. Horton is also hoping that the addition of such distance-oriented athletes will help the Tide's 800 free relay as well.

Huntsville native Jason Kalange, Sean Muncie of Chattanooga, Tennessee, Chris Ross of San Antonio, Texas, and Marc Schrader of Germantown, Tennessee, all bring strong credentials and will look to make an immediate impact for the Tide. Kalange is a past member of the U.S. National Open Water team and Schrader won the 400-meter freestyle at the U.S. Junior National Championships.

The Crimson Tide has long had a proud and successful diving tradition and last year was no exception. All four of Alabama's divers held All-America credentials and all four finished at the conference meet last year, scoring a league leading 121 diving points. This season, with three of those four lost to graduation, the Tide will look to junior All-America Josh Luber and rookie diver Brent Roberts. Roberts, a native of Pensacola, Florida, has extensive national and international experience and could make an immediate impact.



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It's Another Good Year In Alabama

by Stephen Craig

Tide may not take many skill position players

With a good bit of youth in the offensive and defensive backfields this season, Alabama can afford to be choosy in the recruitment of backs and quarterbacks. While this season does have its share of talented offensive players, the bulk of talent is coming in other positions.

This look at wide receivers, running backs, quarterbacks and defensive backs examines players most noted by recruiting services and other publications as the top prospects in Alabama. This list is not all-encompassing of which players Alabama coaches are evaluating, recruiting and passing on. And of course, injuries, performances and other problems and successes will change the status of these prospects.

It is believed that Alabama will concentrate on linemen in this upcoming recruiting class, a class which will be very small (12 signees) owing to NCAA sanctions. The national signings begin February 7.

Here, in alphabetical order, are those players who have been identified as likely college prospects from Alabama high schools:

Mondale Bates is a big defensive back



Tellie Embery

prospect from Colbert County High School in Leighton. A four-year starter for Coach Jimmy Moore, Bates is clocked at 4.4 in the 40 and benches 250 pounds. At 6-1 and 215 pounds, Bates also played running back, along with starting three years for the basketball and baseball teams. He has earned all-state honors, along with being selected to the All Classic Team for two years. As a junior Bates recorded 130 tackles, including a 24-tackle performance against Sylvania. Career numbers on both sides of the ball for Bates include 300 tackles, more than 1,800

yards rushing and 31 touchdowns. Bates lists Alabama as his favorite team, along with current linebacker Ralph Staten as his favorite player.

Tim Bowens is a 6-3, 196-pound defensive back from Brooks High School in Killen. Head Coach Tim Yeager says Bowens is the "best pure athlete I have ever been associated with." Yeager, who has coached such talents as current Tide tight end Patrick Hape, says great things about Bowens' character, work habits and leadership qualities. Bowens is a starter for the basketball team, averaging 17 point per game, and is a four-year starter on the gridiron. Clocking at 4.5 in the 40, Bowens bench presses 285 pounds and is expected to play either defensive back or wide receiver in college. Bowens recently accounted for 337 total yards (159 receiving, 122 throwing and 56 rushing) in Brooks' comeback win over East Lawrence.

Rodregis Brooks is a 5-9, 155-pound defensive back from Dadeville. Size will be a problem in the recruitment of Brooks. However, he showed in a recent game that he can carry the football as he rushed for 206 yards and scored five touchdowns in a 41-19 win over Bullock County. He tops the list of the *Birmingham Post-Herald* second 10.

Rodney Crayton is a 5-9, 165-pound defensive back from Dadeville. Crayton was the state's first commitment this season, going with Auburn. Crayton has blazing

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Moreo Jones

speed at 4.4 and is also a dangerous kick returner. A member of the *Birmingham News* Super Seniors, Crayton plays tailback, receiver and defensive back.

Tellie Embery is a 6-1, 200-pound four-year starter for Coach Bobby Overton at B.B. Comer in Sylacauga. A multi-sport athlete in basketball and baseball as well as football, Embery is clocked at 4.3 in the 40, bench presses 285 pounds and has earned honors such as all-county the last four years, Most Valuable Back the past three seasons, Most Improved Player and honorable mention all-state a year ago. As a junior Embery passed for 1,129 yards and rushed for another 920, along with recording 10 tackles from the free safety position. Tellie is a good student with a 3.2 grade point average, and his career numbers include more than 3,000 yards passing on 513 completions.

Richmond Flowers III is a 6-0, 190-pound defensive back from Vestavia Hills. Although he has already committed to Duke University, there is some speculation that a switch to a Southeastern Conference program is possible. Flowers' father starred as a prep in Montgomery and later at Tennessee, but earned his law degree at Alabama.

David Hill is a 6-3, 188-pound wide receiver out of Eufaula. According to his prep coach, Rush Propst, Hill has the ability to grab a ball in traffic, good for schools who plan to recruit him as either a receiver or defensive back. Hill runs a 4.5 in the 40, and as a junior he caught 27 passes for 426 yards and seven touchdowns. He can see duty as a kickoff and punt returner, and has already qualified academically. Hill wants to play

flanker in college, and lists FSU, Auburn, Florida, Tennessee and Alabama as his top choices.

Daryl Johnson is a 6-3, 195-pound wide receiver from Curry High School in Jasper. Johnson is a versatile athlete, starting three years at forward in basketball, along with participating in golf and track. Football honors for Johnson include all-county for two years, honorable mention all-state as a sophomore, all-state as a junior and second team all-metro as a junior. Last season he caught 50 balls for 866 yards and five touchdowns, and his career numbers total 75 receptions for 1,601 yards and 11 touchdowns. Johnson runs a 4.6 in the 40 and benches 270 pounds. He lists Alabama, Auburn, North Carolina State, FSU and Tennessee as his top choices.

Moreo Jones is a 6-0, 195-pound running back from Brantley. A four-year starter for Coach Roland Jones at Brantley, Jones is clocked at 4.43 in the 40 and bench presses 250 pounds. Also a safety as a prep, Moreo started two years for the basketball team, participated in the 100-meter and 200-meter races for the track team, and has won all-state, all-conference and all-county the past two seasons. As a junior Jones rushed for more than 1,400 yards, added another 469 yards in receiving and made 60 solo tackles. Jones' best performance to date was in 1993 against Slocumb, where he rushed for 290 yards on nine carries and totalled 484 yards and five touchdowns for the game. Career numbers total 3,800 yards rushing, 1,000 passing and 35 touchdowns.

Phillip Jones is a 5-11, 185-pound running back prospect playing for Coach Hugh Fountain at Brewton. All-state as a sophomore in football, Jones also runs the 200 meters, 400 meters and 100 meters for the track team. Jones is clocked at 4.5 in the 40, benches 285 pounds and his best game came in 1994 as he rushed for 222 yards and two touchdowns on 22 carries. Phillip's career numbers total more than 2,900 yards rushing and 28 touchdowns. Jones also plays cornerback for Brewton, but is expected to play tailback in college. His college selections include Alabama, FSU, Florida and LSU.

Brad Knight is a 6-4, 210-pound quarterback prospect playing for Coach Jimmy Foshee and Stanhope Elmore. Clocking at 4.5 in the 40 and benching 305 pounds, Knight is also a two-sport athlete, starting three years for both the football and basketball teams. Knight's honors include all-county and all-metro, along with an MVP award



Phillip Jones

as Best Offensive Back. As a junior Knight passed for 977 yards and rushed for another 925, and he has rushed for 15 career touchdowns. Knight lists SEC schools as his top selections.

Tamaurice "Tee" Martin is a 6-3, 210-pound quarterback for Coach Curtis Horton and Williamson High School in Mobile. A four-year starter, Martin established himself as one of the State's top prospects as a junior, earning the *Mobile Press Register* Offensive Player of the Year honor for passing for more than 2,000 yards and 21 touchdowns along with rushing for more than 500 yards and five touchdowns. Clocking at 4.5 in the 40, Martin benches 350 pounds and is also a two-year starter at forward for the basketball team. Martin's other honors include *Super Prep* All-America and all-state honorable mention.

Shawn McCorkel is a 5-11, 172-pound defensive back from Northview High School in Dothan. McCorkel had a down season a year ago with only six interceptions, due in part to the unwillingness of teams to throw in his direction. McCorkel is a member of the *Tuscaloosa News* Sweet 16, along with earning Class 6A all-state honors last season. Alabama, Auburn and FSU (who chose Lawrence Dawsey from the same school) are all in the hunt.

Judd Moore out of Moody is one of this year's top quarterback prospects. Moore is 6-3 and 180 pounds, with a 3.5 GPA and a list of honors a mile long. In his career Moore has thrown for 32 touchdowns and more than 3,400 yards on 238 completions. Moore is a first team selection on the all-county and all-area teams, along with sec-

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Brad Knight

ond team *Birmingham News* all-metro, honorable mention *Birmingham Post-Herald* all-metro, as well as other accolades. Judd's top single game came against Wilson in 1994, throwing for 284 yards and two touch-

downs. Moore runs a 4.8 in the 40, benches 270 pounds and lists Alabama, Auburn, Mississippi State, South Carolina and BYU as his top choices.

Terry Parrish is a 5-9, 176-pound running back from Theodore. A two-sport athlete in football and baseball, Parrish runs a 4.5 in the 40 and bench presses 280 pounds. Parrish has started three years for Coach Joe Downey at defensive back and running back, totalling more than 2,300 yards rushing with a school record 34 touchdowns. He also recorded 15 tackles and has thrown for 350 yards as a fill-in quarterback. Parrish is an all-region, all-area, Super 22 and Super 12 selection and has been team MVP the last two seasons. Parrish lists Alabama, Auburn, Mississippi State, Tennessee and Florida as top choices.

Ramon Posey is a talented athlete that may play one of many positions for a team. Likened to former Birmingham star David Palmer, Posey at 5-8 and 165 pounds, can do it all. Out of Woodlawn, Posey totalled more than 3,000 yards last season, including a 379-yard performance against Benjamin Russell. Size is one limiting factor with re-



Tamaurice Martin

cruiters against Posey, but there's no doubt he's dangerous with the ball.

Dennison Robinson is a 6-1, 170-pound wide receiver from Murphy High School in Mobile. Robinson is a gifted receiver, but his

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value has dropped because of academics. He rated in the *Tuscaloosa News* second 16.

Everyone knows about the talent that comes out of Hazlewood year in and year

out. Courtney Rose is a 5-10, 180-pound running back from Town Creek, who has more than 2,000 yards rushing and 25 touchdowns for his career. As a junior, Rose totalled 905 yards and 11 touchdowns while being hampered by a bad ankle. An all-state selection, Rose also participates in track and plays guard on the basketball team. Rose this season has a 100-yard kickoff return for a touchdown in a 35-0 win over Red Bay. Clocked at 4.45 in the 40, he bench presses 250 pounds and expects to play tailback in college. Rose lists Alabama, Auburn, Notre Dame and Vanderbilt as his top choices.

Zack Winkler is a 5-11, 175-pound defensive back from Mortimer Jordan High in Morris. A three-year starter for Coach Larry Farris, Winkler recorded 85 tackles, four interceptions, two blocked kicks and three fumble recoveries as a junior. Recently against West Point, Winkler rushed for 150 yards and caught two touchdown passes in a 29-7 win. Also a baseball and track athlete, Winkler earned second team all-state and first team all-county honors in 4A. Playing at free safety, Winkler is clocked at 4.4 in the 40 and benches 290 pounds.



Terry Parrish

Reggie Worthy is a 6-1.5, 185-pound wide receiver from Etowah High School in Attalla, the same high school that produced current Tide players Freddie Kitchens and Toderick Malone. Clocked at 4.5 in the 40, Worthy benches 225 and has been an all-area selection the past two seasons. As a junior Worthy accounted for 705 yards receiving on 46 catches, while also intercepting eight passes at safety. His best game came against Tuscaloosa County in 1995, accounting for 102 yards on eight catches. Worthy's career numbers total more than 1,800 yards receiving and 11 interceptions. Worthy's college choices include Alabama, Auburn, FSU, Georgia Tech and Nebraska.

And there are others who are listed in various publications as college football prospects, including Matt Black, a running back from Cullman Fairview; Chris Cowels, a running back from Smiths Station; Carl Daniels, a defensive back from Birmingham Parker; Remond Goode, a defensive back from Sheffield; Donnie Gosa, a running back from Hackleburg; Joey Hamilton, a wide receiver from Greenville; John S. Jackson, a running back and defensive back from Homewood; Marcus Knight, a wide receiver from Sylacauga B.B. Comer; Cornelius Lassic, a running back (and brother of former Tide star Derrick Lassic) from Montgomery Robert E. Lee; Parvin Neloms, a defensive back from Leighton Colbert County; Corinthian Ricks, a wide receiver from Leighton Colbert County; Yeasive Ware, a wide receiver from Eufaula; and Andrece White, a wide receiver from Mobile Rains.

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Tide Has Reason For High Hopes

by John Barnes

Wells puts Bama through another tough fall practice

Alabama Head Baseball Coach Jim Wells is not a man who enjoys taking it easy. Only four months after Alabama's outstanding 1995 campaign, Wells has his team back on the field for drills he calls "essential to success in the spring."

Like spring practice for football, fall practice gives Wells and his assistants an opportunity to evaluate talent and get a grasp on a tentative starting lineup heading into pre-season practice, which starts in late January.

The NCAA allows college programs four weeks for fall practice and Wells has made the most of it. "I think we've gotten a lot accomplished," he said. "I had several things I wanted to do and we've gotten most of them done. The weather has been great. Other than the three days we had to take off because of the hurricane, we really have not missed much time, so we're pretty much on schedule."

Last year, Wells brought a fresh approach and an emphasis on conditioning to the Tide program. This year, nothing has changed. Running and more running, especially for his pitchers, is Wells' credo for the fall. "We emphasize conditioning because it builds discipline and stamina," he said. "We're not working as much with the weights as we did this time last year, mainly because most of the guys are stronger than they were, but we'll continue with the running because it pays off in May."

Fall practice in 1994 was as much a get-acquainted session as anything else. This year, with eight defensive starters returning, Wells has been able to get away from introductions and get down to the serious business of taking the next step and turning his Tide into a legitimate contender for the College World Series.

"Certainly, that's our goal," said Wells. "But we'll talk more about that in the spring. Right now, my goal is to get this team ready for the spring so we can start ahead of where we did last year."

Starting ahead of last year is a luxury that can only help the Tide. Any confusion or



Chris Eilers



Chris Moller

misunderstanding of Wells' philosophy will no longer be a problem. However, Wells will have to guard against complacency, a problem common to young teams whose exploits the previous year exceeded all expectations.

"From what I've seen so far, I don't think that will be a problem," said Wells. "I think it's something you have to be aware of, but at the same time, you can't dwell on it or it could become a problem. These guys know what's expected of them. Any pressure or expectations put on them will come from the outside, not from me."

It is only natural to have high expectations for this Tide team. With the exception of backup first baseman/designated hitter Jason Jordan and center fielder Anthony Dubose, the 1994 squad returns virtually intact. On the mound, Bama loses one conference starter, but returns three others, including big righty Joel Colgrove

On the surface, it would seem the Tide is a "can't miss" proposition for the 1996 season. Most would feel that Alabama can't help but improve on last year's 42-23 record, but Wells is far from satisfied. "Last year, we caught a lot of breaks," he said. "Someone always came up with the big hit and things just went right for us. That's great, but you just can't rely on breaks all the time. I want us to be more of a complete team, a team capable of scoring runs and getting good pitching. We need to put people away."

Complicating matters is the fact that Alabama plays in the toughest division of the toughest baseball conference in the country. LSU, Mississippi State, Auburn and Arkansas promise to field some of the nation's best teams in 1996. As good as the Tide was last season, there is always room for improvement.

One area Wells feels the Tide needs to improve is running the bases. For a group not blessed with great team speed, technique and aggressiveness is something Wells is striving for. "We're spending a lot of time on base running this fall," he said. "It's something we could have done better last year. We really don't have many legitimate base stealers. Teams can get by without great speed, but you have to run smart. That's something we didn't do very well last year and, hopefully, we'll improve on that."

Aside from base running, Wells looks for more consistency on the mound. Although the Tide got some stellar performances from its starting pitchers, the success was spotty. It was rare for Bama to get two strong outings in a row from any one pitcher.

"We need more consistency from our pitchers," said Wells. "Someone needs to step forward as our number one conference starter. Right now it's a question mark because Joel Colgrove hasn't improved as much as I would like. He certainly has the potential, but his breaking ball is just not developing as quickly as I would like. Chris Eilers is back but is

nursing a sore arm and John Collins is not with us this fall because he is rehabilitating his arm. I realize that may not sound too good, but they'll all be ready by the spring. We've got Tim Young coming back and a new guy, Manny Torres, who throws real hard. That's why we're here in the fall, to get a look at these guys and get an idea on where we're headed going into the spring."

The rest of the squad is in good shape. Bama will return its entire starting infield from last year. Among them, Chris Moller, the big first baseman who surprised everyone by stepping in for an injured Jason Jordan early in the year and never relinquishing the position. Moller hit .405 for the year and allowed Jordan to move to the designated hitter spot.

Around the horn, Bama will return Joe Caruso at second, Brett Taft at shortstop, and Nate Duncan at third, all 1995 regulars. Behind the plate, Dax Norris returns and is swinging a hot bat this fall.

In the outfield, Bama will be long on experience, but short on speed. Starting outfielders Tad Peterson and Dustan Mohr return as

do big-hitting utility men Rusty Loflin and Drew Bounds.

None have the speed to play center field and Wells has signed two junior college transfers, Doug Hall and David Tidwell, to battle for the starting slot.

"We are going to miss Anthony Dubose," said Wells. "He was a big-time leader and started 63 games for us in center field. Both Hall and Tidwell have the ability, but they have a long way to go. We also have to find back-ups at first base and catcher. I'm working Rusty Loflin a little at catcher and we have a new guy, Corey Spires, who will probably work a little at first."

Overall, Wells has reason to be optimistic. With eight starters and three proven pitchers returning, any coach would be. Jim Wells, however, is not just any coach. He wants his team to win through hard work.

"We've got a way to go before we become the type of team I want us to be," he said. "When I took this job, I had an idea of the type of team I wanted us to be. Last year was a great season. We won games in so many different ways, without ever really dominating anybody. This year, we will continue to

work on fundamentals, try to be a little more sound on the basepaths, and hopefully, be more of a complete team."

BASEBALL NOTES: Senior first baseman Chris Moller has been nominated for the Golden Spikes Award, the college baseball equivalent to the Heisman Trophy. The Huntsville native batted .405 last season with 10 home runs and 44 runs batted in. He was the first Bama player to hit .400 since David Magadan's NCAA-leading .525 average in 1983. Magadan was voted SEC Player of the Year and won the Golden Spikes Award as he led Alabama to a second place finish in the College World Series.

Alabama season tickets may be ordered by writing to the Athletics Ticket Office, Box 870394, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487. Season tickets are \$60 for upper level and \$75 for lower level. There are also family plans of two tickets in the upper level for \$75, two tickets in the lower level for \$100, four tickets in the upper level for \$100, four in the lower level for \$125, and a Senior Citizens upper level season ticket for \$25.

Bama will play 30 of its 55 games at Sewell-Thomas Stadium. The addition of 1,600 bleacher seats will bring stadium capacity to 4,500 this year.

The Alabama Grandslammers, the booster group for Alabama baseball, will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, November 6, in the President's Lounge in Coleman Coliseum. Head Coach Jim Wells and Athletics Director Glenn Tuckett will address the meeting. The group will plan events for the upcoming season, including the pre-season barbecue, the Grandslammers Golf Tournament, and Parents' Weekend (for players and batgirls). Membership dues of \$25 will be accepted for new and re-newing members. Last year the group had over 250 members. For more information contact club president Scott Cork at (205) 333-9943 or vice president Alan Stallings at (205) 348-5984.

Alabama will open the 1996 baseball season with a trip to the Olive Garden Classic, one of the nation's top baseball tournaments, featuring five teams that participated in last year's NCAA Regionals. Joining the Crimson Tide at Osceola County Stadium in Kissimmee, Florida, will be Central Florida, Texas Tech, Georgia Tech, North Carolina and Wake Forest. The tournament begins Friday, February 9, and concludes Sunday, February 11.

The second annual Holiday Baseball Camp on the Alabama campus will be December 30-31. For complete information contact the baseball office at (205) 348-6161.



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1995-96 Alabama Winter Sports Schedules

Men's Basketball

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 8	Marathon Oil (Exh.)	7:30
Nov. 17	Croatia (Exh.)	7:30
Nov. 25	Winthrop	1:00
Dec. 2	@ North Texas	1:30
Dec. 6	Tennessee Tech	7:30
Dec. 16	Mercer	7:30
Dec. 19	Florida A&M	7:30
Dec. 21	Tulane	7:30
Cessna Classic at Wichita, Kansas		
Dec. 28	St. Peters	TBA
Dec. 29	Bucknell or Wichita State	TBA

Jan. 3	Vanderbilt	7:30
Jan. 6	@ LSU (SS)	7:00
Jan. 10	Auburn	7:30
Jan. 13	@ Mississippi State (CBS)	3:00
Jan. 17	Tennessee	7:30
Jan. 20	@ South Carolina	6:30
Jan. 23	Arkansas (ESPN)	8:30
Jan. 27	@ Ole Miss	7:00
Jan. 31	Florida	7:30
Feb. 4	@ Syracuse (CBS)	12:00
Feb. 6	@ Southern Miss	7:30
Feb. 10	@ Georgia (JP)	1:00
Feb. 14	@ Auburn	7:30
Feb. 17	LSU (JP)	2:00
Feb. 20	@ Kentucky (ESPN)	8:30
Feb. 24	Mississippi State (JP)	2:00
Feb. 28	@ Arkansas (JP)	7:00
March 2	Ole Miss	7:30
March 7	SEC Tournament	
March 10	@ New Orleans	

Times are central
JP-Jefferson Pilot

SS-SportsSouth

Women's Basketball

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov. 13	Australia (Exh.)	7:00
Nov. 17	Athletes In Action (Exh.)	7:00
Sheraton Capstone Inn Classic		
Nov. 24	Central Florida	6:00
Nov. 25	Maine or UNC-Charlotte	TBA
Central Fidelity Invitational @ Richmond, Va.		
Dec. 2	@ Richmond	1:00
Dec. 3	Connecticut or North Carolina	

Dec. 6	Stephen F. Austin	5:00
Garden Plaza Classic @ Murfreesboro, Tenn.		
Dec. 8	Jackson State	6:00
Dec. 9	MTSU or Belmont	TBA
Dec. 17	Georgia (SS)	6:00
Dec. 18	Bethune-Cookman	7:00
Howard Bank Classic @ Burlington, Ver.		
Dec. 21	UNC-Greensboro	5:00
Dec. 22	Vermont or San Diego	TBA

Junkanoo Shootout @ Nassau, Bahamas		
Dec. 28	Oklahoma	6:00
Dec. 29	Western Kentucky or Virginia Commonwealth	TBA

Jan. 4	@ Arkansas	7:00
Jan. 7	@ Ole Miss (SS)	2:30
Jan. 13	Mississippi State	7:00
Jan. 16	@ Northwestern State	7:00
Jan. 20	Kentucky	7:00
Jan. 24	Auburn	7:00
Jan. 27	@ Tennessee (SS)	1:00
Jan. 31	Alabama State	5:00
Feb. 3	LSU	7:00
Feb. 13	@ Auburn	7:00
Feb. 17	Florida	7:00
Feb. 19	@ Vanderbilt (ESPN)	12:30
Feb. 22	@ South Carolina	6:00
March 1	SEC Tournament	
March 4	@ Chattanooga	

Times are central
SS-SportsSouth

Gymnastics

Date	Opponent	Time
Jan. 6	Meet The Team (Exh.)	7:30
Jan. 13	@ Auburn	8:00
Jan. 19	Penn State	7:30
Jan. 19	Nebraska	7:30
Jan. 27	Florida	7:30
Feb. 2	@ Georgia	6:00
Feb. 10	@ Kentucky	6:00
Feb. 16	Massachusetts	7:30
Feb. 23	@ LSU	7:30
March 1	Georgia	7:30
March 10	Corvette Cup @ Columbia, Mo.	7:30
March 16	Auburn	
March 29	SEC Championships @ Lexington	
April 13	NCAA Regionals @ Baton Rouge	
April 25	NCAA Championships @ Tuscaloosa	

Times are central

Men's Indoor Track

Date	Event
Jan. 20	Arkansas State Invitational @ Jonesboro, Ark.
Jan. 27	LSU Invitational @ Baton Rouge
Feb. 3	Wildcat Classic @ Lexington
Feb. 11	Barnett Bank Inviotational @ Gainesville, Fla.
Feb. 24-25	SEC Championships @ Lexington
Feb. 29	Florida Fast Times @ Gainesville
March 1-2	USATF Championships @ Atlanta
March 8-9	NCAA Championships @ Indianapolis, Ind.

Women's Indoor Track

Date	Event
Jan. 20	Arkansas State Invitational @ Jonesboro, Ark.
Jan. 27	LSU Invitational @ Baton Rouge
Feb. 3	Wildcat Classic @ Lexington
Feb. 11	Barnett Bank Inviotational @ Gainesville, Fla.
Feb. 24-25	SEC Championships @ Lexington
Feb. 29	Florida Fast Times @ Gainesville
March 1-2	USATF Championships @ Atlanta
March 8-9	NCAA Championships @ Indianapolis, Ind.

Men's Swimming & Diving

Date/UA	Opponent	Time/Opp.
	Kentucky	
Nov. 4	LSU	11:00
Nov. 11	Florida	11:00
Nov. 17-19	Nebraska Invitational @ Lincoln	
Dec. 1-3	Nike Cup @ Chapel Hill, N.C.	
Jan. 8	NC State & Florida State	2:00
Jan. 13	NE Louisiana	11:00
Jan. 27	@ Auburn	TBA
Feb. 7-10	SEC Championships @ Knoxville	
Feb. 23-25	Georgia Invitational @ Athens	
March 3-8	US Swimming Olympic Trials @ Indianapolis	
March 14	NCAA Zone Diving @ TBA	
March 16	@ TBA	
March 28	NCAA Championships	
March 30	@ Austin, Texas	

Times are central

Women's Swimming & Diving

Date/UA	Opponent	Time/Opp.
	Kentucky	
Nov. 4	LSU	11:00
Nov. 11	Florida	11:00
Nov. 17-19	Nebraska Invitational @ Lincoln	
Dec. 1-3	Nike Cup @ Chapel Hill, N.C.	
Jan. 8	NC State & Florida State	2:00
Jan. 27	@ Auburn	TBA
Jan. 27	Michigan @ Auburn	TBA
Feb. 7-10	SEC Championships @ Knoxville	
Feb. 23-25	Georgia Invitational @ Athens	
March 3-8	US Swimming Olympic Trials @ Indianapolis	
March 14	NCAA Zone Diving	
March 16	@ TBA	
March 21	NCAA Championships	
March 23	@ Ann Arbor, Michigan	

Times are central

Bama's 1995 Football Opponents' Results, Schedules

Team	Sept. 2	Sept. 9	Sept. 16	Sept. 23	Sept. 30	Oct. 7	Oct. 14	Oct. 21	Oct. 28	Nov. 4	Nov. 11	Nov. 18	Nov. 25
VANDERBILT Commodores Nashville, Tenn.	ALABAMA 25-33		@ Notre Dame 0-41	TCU 3-16	Arkansas 7-35		Georgia 6-17	@ South Carolina 14-52	@ Ole Miss	Kentucky	Louisiana Tech	@ Florida	@ Tennessee
SOUTHERN MISS Golden Eagles Hattiesburg, Miss.	Northern Illinois 45-13	@ ALABAMA (Birmingham) 20-24	@ Utah St. 24-21	@ Indiana 26-27	Tulane 45-0	Louisville 25-21	@ Cincinnati 13-16		East Carolina	@ Tennessee	@ Memphis	@ Southwest Louisiana	
ARKANSAS Razorbacks Fayetteville, Ark.	@ SMU 14-17	South Carolina 51-21	@ ALABAMA (Tuscaloosa) 20-19	Memphis @ Little Rock 27-20	@ Vanderbilt 35-7	Tennessee 31-49	Ole Miss @ Memphis 13-6		Auburn	Mississippi State	Southwest Louisiana		@ LSU
GEORGIA Bulldogs Athens, Ga.	South Carolina 42-23	@ Tennessee 27-30	New Mexico State 40-13	Ole Miss 10-18	ALABAMA 0-31	@ Clemson 19-17	@ Vanderbilt 17-6	Kentucky 12-3	Florida		Auburn		Nov. 23 @ Georgia Tech
NORTH CAROLINA STATE Wolfpack Raleigh, N.C.	Aug. 31 Marshall 33-16	Virginia 24-29	@ FSU 17-77	Baylor 0-14	Clemson 22-43	@ ALABAMA (Tuscaloosa) 11-27		@ Duke 41-38		Maryland	@ Georgia Tech	@ Wake Forest	Nov. 24 North Carolina
TENNESSEE Volunteers Knoxville, Tenn.	East Carolina 27-7	Georgia 30-27	@ Florida 37-62	Mississippi State 52-14	Oklahoma State 31-0	@ Arkansas 49-31	@ ALABAMA (Birmingham) 41-14		South Carolina	Southern Miss		@ Kentucky	Vanderbilt
OLE MISS Rebels Oxford, Miss.	@ Auburn 13-46	Indiana State 56-10		Georgia 18-10	@ Florida 10-28	Tulane 20-17	Arkansas @ Memphis 6-13	ALABAMA 9-23	Vanderbilt	@ Memphis	@ LSU		@ Mississippi State
NORTH TEXAS Eagles Denton, Texas	@ Missouri 7-28	Kansas @ Irving 10-27	Oregon State 30-27	@ Oklahoma 10-51		@ Nevada-Reno 24-56	UAB 14-19	@ LSU 7-49	@ ALABAMA (Tuscaloosa) 2-30 CDT	@ UNLV	Idaho State	@ Louisville	
LSU Fighting Tigers Baton Rouge, La.	@ Texas A&M 17-33	@ Mississippi State 34-16	Auburn 12-6	Rice 52-7	@ South Carolina 20-20	Florida 10-28	@ Kentucky 16-24	North Texas 49-7		@ ALABAMA (Tuscaloosa)	Ole Miss		Arkansas
MISSISSIPPI STATE Bulldogs Starkville, Miss.	Memphis 28-18	LSU 16-34	Baylor 30-21	@ Tennessee 14-52	Northwest Louisiana 32-34	@ Auburn 20-48	South Carolina 39-65		Kentucky	Arkansas @ Little Rock	@ ALABAMA (Tuscaloosa)		Ole Miss
AUBURN Tigers Auburn, Ala.	Ole Miss 46-13	Chattanooga 76-10	@ LSU 6-12		@ Kentucky 42-21	Mississippi State 48-20	Florida 38-49	Western Michigan 34-13	Arkansas @ Little Rock	Northeast Louisiana	@ Georgia	ALABAMA	

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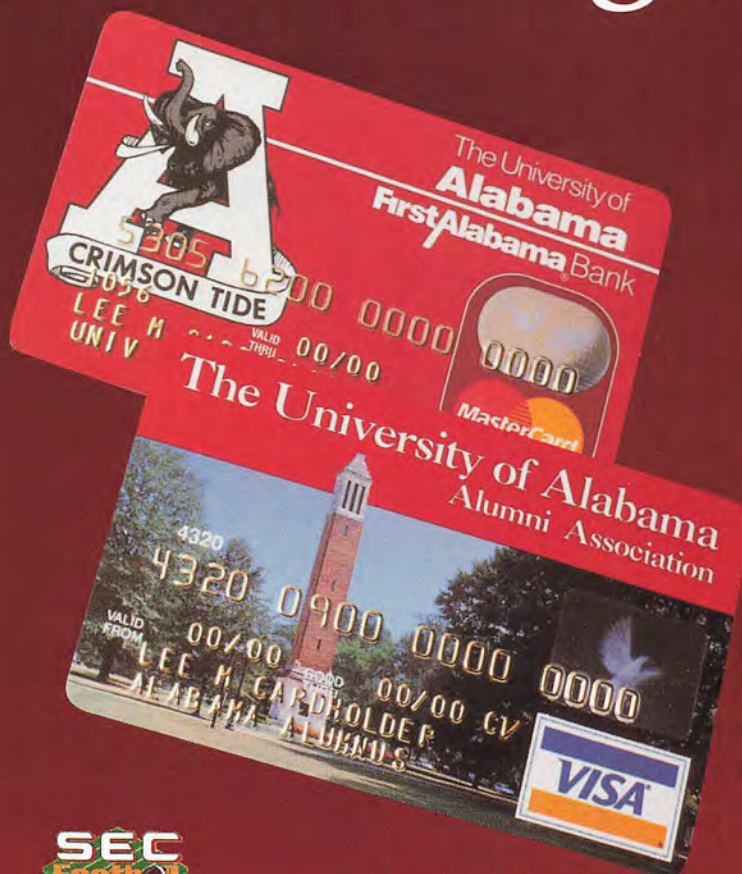


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